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--61. In an optical scanner having a source of a light beam, a deflector for deflecting said light beam and an imaging lens that focuses the deflected light beam to form a beam spot on a surface to be scanned, the improvement wherein the curvatures in a sub-scanning direction of at least two of the surfaces of said imaging lens vary continuously along a main scanning direction over the effective area of said imaging lens and independently of the curvatures in the main scanning direction, and wherein the curvatures in the main and sub-scanning directions are non-symmetrical with respect to the optical axis.

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62. An optical scanner according to claim 61, wherein the optical magnification of said imaging lens in the sub-scanning direction is constant over the effective scanning region. 2

63. An optical scanner according to claim 61 or 62, wherein said imaging lens is a single lens. 3

64. An optical scanner according to claim 63, wherein said imaging lens satisfies the following requirement:

the entrance face of said imaging lens has a cross section taken in the sub-scanning direction which is concave at the center of scanning and convex at either end of scanning. 4 (cont)

65. An optical scanner according to claim 64, wherein said imaging lens has a surface that is aspheric in the main scanning direction. 6

66. An optical scanner according to claim 65, wherein said imaging lens has a surface having a point of inflection in the main scanning direction. 7

67. An optical scanner according to claim 65, wherein said light source has a plurality of light-emitting portions. 8

68. An optical scanner according to claim 67, wherein that element of the imaging lens which has such a surface that the curvature in the sub-scanning direction varies continuously along the main scanning direction over the effective area of said imaging lens is made of resin. 9

69. An optical scanner according to claim 61, wherein said imaging lens has a surface that is aspheric in the main scanning direction. 10

70. An optical scanner according to claim 69, wherein said imaging lens has a surface having a point of inflection in the main scanning direction. 11

71. An optical scanner according to claim 61, wherein said light source has a plurality of light-emitting portions. 12

72. An optical scanner according to claim 71, wherein that element of the imaging lens which has such a surface that the curvature in the sub-scanning direction varies continuously along the main scanning direction over the effective area of said imaging lens is made of resin.---. 13